## ENGELHARD INDUSTRIES OF CANADA LTD

## MAPLE LEAF SILVER BARS

By **AG**Wire™ August 14, 2015



There are few things in life that are sweeter than pure maple syrup from Canada, unless, of course, you're holding an Engelhard Canadian Maple Leaf silver bar in your hand. The Canadian Maple Leaf is Canada's symbol of National pride, an image representing deep rooted history and Canadian heritage, undeniable strength, uncompromising unity and glorious beauty. For these obvious reasons, Engelhard Industries of Canada Ltd. introduced the Maple Leaf logo into its bullion pallet in 1981 with the issuance of Maple Leaf portrait bars in sizes of 1oz, 5oz and 10oz. The above photos show an encircled brilliant Maple Leaf stamping at top, overlaid with a bold Engelhard hallmark. To some, the image resembles an imperial crown, portraying the pinnacle of greatness. Maple Leaf bars represented the last, and in many respects, the best of Engelhard's Canadian production run, which spanned from approximately 1968 to 1982.

While Engelhard produced a solid run of it's exclusive 1oz bars for retail market, it also teamed up with then banking giants TD Bank and Scotiabank, as well as Litton Systems Canada Ltd and Par Excellence Club Des Rois to produce special limited art bars for the high end and novelty retail bullion market. These co-branded bars in 1oz and 10oz sizes were of very low mintage as outlined below. To our knowledge, there were no 5oz co-branded Engelhard Maple Leaf bars produced, however, we would joyously welcome the surprise!

If you browse eBay you will likely find several 1oz Maple Leaf bars for sale on auction or Buy it Now, and they generally trade in the \$25 - \$50 range depending upon condition, original seal or not, and serial number. As for availability of the co-branded 1oz bars, they are seldom seen on the market and command prices in the \$50-100 range, or more, representing 3-6x current spot value as of this writing. The 5oz and 10oz Maple varieties are even more rare than the 1oz bar, and if you think you're going to just run across one on eBay, *FAT CHANCE*! Actually, they do come available on rare occasion, I was just having a maple sugar rush, but they are *pricey*. Total mintage of all Canadian Maple Leaf bars in all sizes and varieties is less than 50,000, which makes these quite rare and collectible in any size and variety. Below is an outline of varieties and their respective mintages:

Weight Class	Variety	Mintage
1oz	Maple	<40,000
1oz	Litton	< 1,000
1oz	TD Bank	< 1,000
1oz	Club of Kings	< 1,000
1oz	Scotiabank	< 1,000
5oz	Maple	< 1,000
10oz	Maple	< 100
10oz	TD Bank	< 2,000
10oz	Scotiabank	< 2,000

So, put on a fresh pot of coffee and start searching for a sweet Maple Leaf bar to add to your Engelhard collection! As the above numbers show, they sure didn't make many of these, and by now there should be no doubt that a meaningful percentage of the <50,000 were melted over the years, so get 'em while you can! If you think about it, the US Mint produces more 1oz Silver Eagles in THREE (3) HOURS of production than <u>all</u> Maple Leaf bars ever produced! *What's in your stack?!* 

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